

REMARKS

In this response, no claims have been amended and claims 1-21 are pending.

Claims 1-3 have been rejected for anticipation by US Patent No. 5,734,700 ("Hauser").

The applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the following reasons.

Prima facie, rejection of a claim for anticipation by a reference requires that the reference describe, explicitly or by inherency, all of the elements or steps, and all of the limitations of the rejected claim.

Claim 1 is a method for use "in a mobile gateway". The claim includes the step of "storing, at the mobility gateway, a plurality of temporary transfer-to telephone numbers ... ". The term "gateway" has a clear and well-understood meaning in the mobile communications arts. In this regard, see the previously-cited ***Ericsson Review*** article entitled "Jambala Mobility Gateway-Convergence and Inter-system Roaming". See further the definition of "gateway" at page 302 of ***Newton's Telecom Dictionary***, which is forwarded with this paper. The applicant has used the term "gateway" throughout the specification and claims in a manner that is altogether consistent with its accepted meaning. See for example, the "mobility gateway" 102 described at page 7, lines 7-22, and illustrated in Fig. 1 of the specification.

It is contended in the Office Action of 8/28/02, at page 2, section 2, that Hauser "discloses a method for use in a mobility gateway for forwarding a call ... comprising: storing, at the mobility gateway (11, 15, 17, and 19) ... ". In fact, these are separate, independent elements, denoted by Hauser as follows: "a bridgehead 11 situated in the USA ", "a Mobile Services Switching Center (MSC) 15 in Europe", "a Virtual Home Location Register (VHLR) 17" (located in Europe per FIG 1), and "a MSC 19" (also located in Europe per FIG 1). A diligent reading of Hauser has not yielded a reference to these elements individually or collectively as a "gateway" or as a "mobility gateway". Indeed, none of these elements is a gateway. The bridgehead 11 bears a resemblance to a "bridge" (which is defined at page 302 of ***Newton's Telecom Dictionary***), but that element is distinct and different from a "gateway" in the telecommunication arts. Hauser, at Col. 2, lines 34-36, does correspond the bridgehead 11 to a "gateway mobile services switching center", but that element is distinct from the "mobility gateway" of the rejected claims. In this regard, see Fig. 1 of this application and the accompanying description at page 7, lines 7-28 where the mobility gateway 102 operates in conjunction with with a "gateway mobile switching center (MSC) 112" and a "GSM mobile switching center (MSC) 104".

Further, claim 1 recites "storing, at the mobility gateway, a plurality of temporary transfer-to telephone numbers" followed by "selecting, for association with the roaming subscriber unit,

one of the temporary transfer-to telephone numbers". A "temporary transfer-to telephone number" is defined in detail in the specification at page 6, lines 15-28. Briefly, among other attributes, "temporary transfer-to telephone numbers may be dynamically assigned to roaming subscriber units." There are no such numbers disclosed or suggested in Hauser. In Hauser, two numbers (+1 212 klmnopq, and + 49 171 rstuvwx) are allocated to a USA telephone number (+1 abc defghi) by commission of the user of the USA number (See Hauser, Col. 2, lines 14-17). With this prearrangement, a call for the USA number +1 abc defghi is routed to the bridgehead 11 at the number +1 212 klmnopq, where it is converted to the number + 49 171 rstuvwx. There is no "plurality of "transfer-to numbers" shown or described at the bridgehead 11 from which one temporary transfer-to number is selected "for association with a roaming subscriber unit".

Further, Hauser does not forward calls to, or otherwise service "a roaming subscriber unit". Instead, Hauser forwards calls directed to a designated user number of a first telephone network to a temporary subscriber number of a second telephone network. In other words, a traveler from the USA must commission a service in a European GSM network to receive, on a GSM telephone of that network, calls to his USA telephone number. He cannot "roam" his USA network telephone in the European GSM network.

Claims 4-21 have been rejected for obviousness over Hauser. That rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Prima facie, rejection of a claim for obviousness over a modified reference requires some suggestion to make the proposed modification to the reference, a reasonable expectation of success, and the presence, explicitly or by suggestion, of all elements (or steps) of the rejected claim.

With respect to claims 4-14, as already stated, Hauser omits any mention of a "mobility gateway" using "temporary transfer-to telephone numbers" to forward calls between disparate telephone systems to "a roaming subscriber unit". All of these claims are limited by these terms. Hauser uses a "bridgehead 11" located in the service area of one system to solve the problem of call forwarding between unlike systems. However, calls are forwarded from a first telephone service to a temporary user of a second telephone service under commissioned conversion conditions. Temporary subscription for the services of the second telephone system suggests that the subscriber leave his first system unit at home because, upon his arrival in the territory of the second system he will "get a mobile phone". In other words, Hauser does not contemplate forwarding calls to roaming subscriber units.

Accordingly, Hauser omits "a mobility gateway" that stores "a plurality of temporary transfer-to telephone numbers" and selects one of those temporary transfer-to telephone for

association with a "roaming subscriber unit". If it is contended that the omitted subject matter is inherent in Hauser, the applicant respectfully requests the introduction of extrinsic evidence establishing that a mobility gateway having the functionality to serve a roaming subscriber unit as recited in the rejected claims is necessarily in some one or more elements of Hauser, and that it would be recognized as so by a person reasonably skilled in the art.

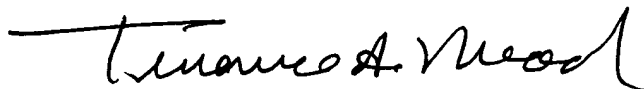
Claims 15-18 concern forwarding a call intended for a subscriber unit when the subscriber unit is "a roaming subscriber unit". In the claimed method, a call request for the roaming unit is received and stored, and then a location request message is received "from a mobile switching center which homes a temporary transfer-to telephone number associated with the roaming subscriber unit". That "message" is associated with the unit and then a "redirection request message" is sent to a gateway mobile switching center which received the call request for the "roaming subscriber unit". For reasons given above, a roaming subscriber unit and a temporary transfer-to telephone number are neither taught nor suggested in Hauser. The messages recited in these claims are also absent from Hauser.

Claims 19-21 concern a method or use by "a mobility gateway" which uses various messages to set up communication with "a roaming subscriber unit". For reasons given above, these elements are neither taught nor suggested in Hauser.

Accordingly, there is no teaching or implication in Hauser that Hauser's description be modified as proposed. If modification of Hauser to include the omitted subject matter is considered to be suggested in prior art other than Hauser, the applicants respectfully request the introduction of a reference or an affidavit supporting the suggestion of the missing subject matter. Otherwise, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

No fee is necessary with the submission of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 50/2258.

Respectfully submitted,



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